

5530 Eastbourne Drive
Springfield, VA 22151
24 April 1992 11:22pm

Mr. Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, MD 21702

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

Thank you for your letter of the 19th instant. Having been out of town for the better part of three weeks I'm woefully behind in everything.

The *Times* didn't use the letter insofar as I know, but as you suggested I anticipated that happening.

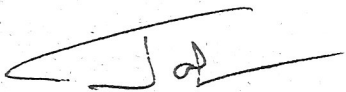
Regarding the recent Fox Network special, I had a friend tape it for me and I'll get a copy out to you, under separate cover, this week. As you heard, it was extraordinarily miserable. In fact, I felt somewhat ashamed for James Earl Jones; a fine actor he may be but it was shamefully apparent that he was pathetically unprepared for this show. I would offer a hypothesis and suggest that he was used by the producers for his marquee value alone. Unfortunately for him, he was foolish enough to be used accordingly. I intend to dispatch a personal note to him (of what value I'm not certain) in order to express my dismay over the production.

As you will see, the entire show is ripe with anecdotal information, rumor, and innuendo. It accomplished nothing if not to perjure substantive criticism. Unfortunately, I suspect thousands saw it and believed it because of Jones' role as host. Sad commentary!

I have inclosed a copy of David Belin's comments to the National Press Club. I haven't read it carefully but I was surprised to discover that you and Belin agree on something; to wit, the unbelievable situation regarding the *JFK* study guides. There may be some hope after all.

Regards to Mrs. Weisberg and I hope to be able to see you in the not too distant future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'JW Masland', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

John W. Masland